



**U.S. Department of Justice  
U.S. Attorney's Office  
Western District of Texas**

**Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Shana Jones, Special Assistant  
Daryl Fields, Public Affairs Officer  
610 N.W. Loop 410  
San Antonio, Texas 78216  
(210) 384-7440

**ARMED CAREER CRIMINAL SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON  
FOR FIREARMS VIOLATION IN PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS CASE**

**United States Attorney Johnny Sutton** announced that 39-year-old Troy Dayton Fuller of Arlington, Texas, was sentenced today to 220 months in federal prison under the Armed Career Criminal Act. U.S. District Judge Robert Junell ruled that the Armed Career Criminal Act, which calls for a mandatory minimum of 15 years imprisonment, applied to this case due to the defendant's three prior violent felony convictions including a December 1993 federal conviction for use of a firearm during and in relation to a drug trafficking offense and two 1982 burglary convictions in Tarrant County, Texas.

On November 18, 2003, a federal jury in Pecos, Texas, convicted Fuller, an admitted member of the "Republic of Texas," a militia organization, for possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. On June 26, 2003, at the United States Border Patrol checkpoint at Sierra Blanca, Texas, agents discovered a .380 caliber pistol inside a closed compartment under the front passenger's seat of the van that Fuller was driving.

"Mr. Fuller has repeatedly demonstrated violent, criminal behavior and a general disregard for federal firearms laws. He has earned every day of his 220-month prison term," stated U.S. Attorney Johnny Sutton. "Texas is safer now that Fuller is in federal prison."

This case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives together with the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection of the Department of Homeland Security. This case was prosecuted for the government by Assistant United States Attorney Gary Tromblay.

The prosecution of this case is another example of how the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Texas is implementing the Department of Justice's gun crime initiative - Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN). Project Safe Neighborhoods is a nationwide federal initiative designed to reduce gun violence in our communities. PSN promotes partnerships among federal, state, and local law enforcement to target criminals in possession of guns. Federal law insures that when an armed criminal is arrested, that individual will face swift criminal prosecution and be exiled from the community through the use of stiff mandatory prison sentences.

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